CLAIMS

1. A recorder comprising:
   a tape having an information layer on which information is storable in the form of perturbations ;
   an array of cantilevers with tips that in function faces the tape such that the tips scan the information layer of the tape ;
   means for selectively forming the perturbations via the tips;
   means for detecting the presence of the perturbations via the tips; and
   drive means for moving the tape relative to the array of cantilevers with tips .

2. Recorder according to claim 1, wherein the array of cantilevers with tips is skewed relative to the direction of movement of the tape .

3. Recorder according to claim 1, wherein the tape comprises several information layers .

4. Recorder according to claim 1, wherein the information layer comprises a polymer.

5. Recorder according to claim 1, wherein the information layer comprises a plurality of tracks .

6. Recorder according to claim 5, wherein each cantilever of the array of cantilevers with tips scans several of the plurality of tracks .

7. Recorder according to claim 1, wherein the drive means moves the tape stepwise in relation to the array of cantilevers with tips .

8. Recorder according to claim 1 further comprising movement means for moving the array of cantilevers with tips relative to the tape .

9. Recorder according to claim 8, wherein the movement means generates an oscillating movement .

10. Recorder according to claim 1 further comprising means for erasing the perturbations.

11. A player comprising:
    a tape having an information layer on which information is storable in the form of perturbations ;
    an array of cantilevers with tips that in function faces the tape such that the tips scan the surface of the tape ;
    means for detecting the presence of the perturbations via the tips; and
    drive means for moving the tape relative to the array of cantilevers with tips .

12. A tape storage unit comprising a tape having an information layer on which information in form of perturbations is storable, the tape storage being useable with a recorder comprising: (i) a tape having an information layer on which information is storable in the form of perturbations; (ii) an array of cantilevers with tips that in function faces the tape such that the tips scan the information layer of the tape; (iii) means for selectively forming the perturbations via the tips; (iv) means for detecting the presence of the perturbations via the tips; and (v) drive means for moving the tape relative to the array of cantilevers with tips.

13. The tape storage unit according to claim 12 being a cassette .

14. The tape storage unit according to claim 12, wherein the tape comprises a base and a coating comprising a polymer.

15. The tape storage unit according to claim 14, wherein the base comprises a base layer comprising one of the materials: metal, milar, teflon, polymide.

16. The tape storage unit according to claim 15, wherein the information is storable on the base layer by magnetic orientation and on the coating by indentations .

17. The tape storage unit according to claim 12, wherein the tape is endless.

18. The tape storage unit according to claim 12 further comprising means for mounting the tape in a plurality of nested loops.

19. A method for storing and reading information comprising:

facing an array of cantilevers with tips to a tape , whereby information in form of perturbations being storable on an information layer of the tape ;

moving the tape relative to the array of cantilevers with tips ;

forming and erasing the perturbations by selectively applying a tip of the array of cantilevers with tips ; and

detecting the presence of the perturbations by detecting means .

20. Method according to claim 19, whereby the step of facing the array of cantilevers with tips to a tape further comprises moving the array of cantilevers with tips relative to the tape.